

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection

Veterinary Services  
National Center For Import  
Import/Export Products  
Service 4700 River Road, Unit 40  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), regulates the importation of animals and animal-derived materials to ensure that exotic animal and poultry diseases are not introduced into the United States.

Generally, a USDA veterinary permit is needed for materials derived from animals or exposed to animal-source materials. Materials which require a permit include animal tissues, blood, cells or cell lines of livestock or poultry origin, RNA/DNA extracts, hormones, enzymes, monoclonal antibodies for IN VIVO use in non-human species, certain polyclonal antibodies, antisera, bulk shipments of test kit reagents, and microorganisms including bacteria, viruses, protozoa, and fungi. Exceptions to this requirement are human and non-human primate tissues, serum, and blood.

Various other animal materials which require a permit include dairy products (except butter and cheese), and meat products (e.g., meat pies, prepared foods) from countries with livestock diseases exotic to the U.S.

User fees are charged for all import services for restricted animal products. All applications for a veterinary permit to import controlled materials or transport organisms and vectors must be accompanied by payment before processing can begin. Acceptable methods of payment are: check or money order (payable to USDA, APHIS), VISA, MasterCard, American Express, or APHIS User Fee Credit Account. User fee accounts are recommended if there are more than 6 fee activities per year. Please see below for information on establishing a user fee account.

\*The schedule of primary user fees are as follows (from 9 CFR, Part 130.8):

Service	Fee
Processing original application	\$94.00
Processing application for renewal	\$61.00
Processing amended application	\$47.00
Import compliance assistance	
(Simple) per shipment on hold	\$64.00
(Complicated) per shipment on hold	\$164.00

\*Please note all fees are subject to change.

Import permit applications may also be obtained through the Automated Document Retrieval System by calling Area Code (301) 734-4952, or by writing the Animal Products Program at:

USDA, APHIS, VS, NCIE  
Products Program  
4700 River Road, Unit 40  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

For further information please contact the Animal Products Program at (301) 734-3277 or by facsimile at (301) 734-8226.

**Establishing a User Fee Credit Account with APHIS**

An account can be established by requesting an application from the following:

USDA, APHIS, ART		User Fee Helpline
P.O. Box 3334	-or-	1-877-777-2128
Minneapolis, MN 55403		or (612)370-2291

A form can also be downloaded from the following web site:  
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms>, select: "APHIS 192".